

may take place at any time. The
Harper's Ferry tragedy has surely done
much to hasten it. The noble John
Brown will hereafter be regarded
as one of the most covered of martyrs
— ah! I read the account of his poor
wife's farewell wish to him. — She
attended at the funeral & with
tearful eyes & deep sympathy, yet
serene, I felt that her generous self-
sacrifice w^d enable her to derive
rich consolation, even in her un-
-speakable grief; — from the consid-
-eration that the ~~the~~ life w^h was so
precious to her, had not been sacrificed
in vain.

This is a worthless Epistle to send so
far & I can but ask you to have the
kindness to make allowance for me
in consideration of the difficulty I
find to in collecting my thoughts & suffi-
-ciently to put on paper. Let me how-
-ever assure you of my deep gratitude
for y^r dear letter & of my heart felt in-
-terest in the welfare of y^r self & all who
are dear to you.

before

Shall that B. S. J. May - was that of
Dr. Bowditch's his daughter, which
we both so much enjoyed. Now do all
these pleasures now seem as so many
dreams - how past is life altogether
but coming to feel but as a dream
- ah! when & how & where with the
awaking be?

But I am indulging myself by thus
giving expression to the thoughts which
crowd upon me as I wake, regard-
less of order or method & have un-
consciously wandered from the point
I was about to touch on - I mean of
health, which I prize to hear has
been so indifferent & cannot but
deem it probable that a thorough
change is required & especially absence
from the exciting scenes of the coming
presidential election - which I think
- take ^{not} will be this year.

From the little I have read lately of
what has been going on among you
it seems to me that the two parties -
the pro-slavery & anti-slavery are
rapidly hastening on to a collision
& that - volcano-like - an explosion

of anxiety - to dear Wendell & Anne
requesting them to let you send the
letter if you desired - I will not go
therefore so over these sad scenes
again - Not truly to us the survivors
yet more they inwardly soothe
by the sight of the heavenly serenity
- the solemn beauty w^{ch} overspread
the countenance of the loved one
who was leaving us. Thus we see
how our loving Father helps us thro'
what in anticipation looks insur-
mountable.

Many dear friends have written
me kind words of sympathy from
your land - W. W. M. W. & S. I may
to all of whom, wh^o you think of
it, I sh^d like to be affec^ted - remembered
- how vividly does S. J. M.'s little visit
& the caution he gave me respecting
my beloved husband's health rise
up before me as I write. Ah! he
little knew the intensity of the anxiety
I was then enduring on account of it.
one of the last visits we had - very

Hard & difficult is it to look forward
with composure to holding it a final
adieu, but we have been wonderfully
helped through much & I doubt not
we shall again be helped thro' all
that lies before us.

Now, dear friend, I want to know
about what time you expect to cross
the Atlantic; - during the whole of
May & a good part of June, I expect,
we shall be in confusion - we have
a great mass of things to move & a
very extensive & fine library, & wish
to take a great deal of arranging. So
that I fear you cannot see us here
later than April & if you do come
we shall hope for a long, quiet rest
from you. Wey continue to gratify us.
Is it not singular, that the last time
I saw you was a few months after
the death of my beloved father -
& a dear, dear parent he was, yet that
trial was hard almost said, small
in comparison of my present.
I wrote many particulars of the
last sad week & the preceding months

the doubt w^{ch} that improvement
threw over the prospect I had de-
-sired of seeing you in England.
I still do not however give up
the hope that it may yet be
realized & shall converse with much
interest the arrival of further in-
-formation on the subject.

I had two little visits from Geo
Thompson during his recent stay
in Glasgow - his recovery even to
the extent in w^{ch} this has been
realized, is wonderful - but he is
greatly altered in appearance &
I much feared he was presuming
too far on the improvement that
has taken place, by lecturing so
much. Idleness is not a congenial
state to him & he seems resolved
either to wear them to dust out.

Will you kindly give the enclosed
card with my future address to our
dear friend Wardell & with kind
love to yr self & family, believe me
ever yours affectionately
E. J. Nichol

Of the sorrows & the conflicts of those
they have loved on earth, as well
as that of a the Highest.

I have taken up my pen however
to day - from amidst the bustle &
confusion in wh^{ch} we have been en-
-gaged all the past week, in prepa-
-ration for our removal - with the
simple purpose of telling you that
we expect to bid a final adieu
to this loved & beautiful home of
my married life - on Thursday &
to ask you to be kind enough to give
directions for my "Liberator" to be
addressed to Mr. J. P. Nichol
Sturtevant Lodge, Grosvenor Street,
near Edinburgh.

Those wh^{ch} come in the mean time
will no doubt be duly forwarded
from the post office here.

I intended to have written some
time ago but we have of late been
so busy that I have forgotten to do so.

I rejoiced to hear of the improve-
-ment in y^r health, altho' sorry for

is gone; - I trust if life be reserved
to me yet a little while, still to
find something to do - in however
lunatic a way - in the noble work
of ameliorating the sufferings & de-
privations of my fellow creatures;
- besides - the line of Young's Steu-
rum takes the desire to be up &
a doing - where he so truly says "he
mourns the dead who lived as they
desire" (on something to this effect!)
& well do I know how earnest his
longing was that when once thro' the
great literary work of W. he never
quite completed, we should together
give ourselves to the struggle for the
bettering the condition of those pos-
-sessed of fewer advantages than
we were blessed with. We had much
in his power & he did much to
awake men mentally - I was to
something to alleviate their ^{condition} physi-
-cally & I know that in doing this
I shall have his approbation (if
the spirits of the departed are cog-
-nizant)

T. W. Garrison



Observatory April 29
1860

My very dear Friend

Your last kind

letter was I can assure you, most
highly appreciated at the hour & is
acknowledged. The grounds of
consolation to w^h you so feelingly
direct my attention are all of
them, & surely believe legitimate &
with some prospects not to have more
& more influence upon me as time
moves on, silently but surely carry-
ing me down the stream w^h opens
into the vast ocean of eternity.

Time even does a good deal so far
as unraveling the heart to its de-
-solation, tho' it also more & more
reveals the immeasurable extent
of the bereavement I have sustained.

But, think not, dear friend, that
I mean to spend the remainder of
my days in mourning for him who